

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 14320 052027Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /068 W
-----078298 052030Z /64

R 051533Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9957
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 14320

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EG LY
SUBJECT: ABDULHAMID BACKOUSH

1. ABDULHAMID BACKOUSH, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF LIBYA,
CALLED ON EMBOFF JUNE 5 TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM UNDER-
SECRETARY NEWSOM (EARLIER ATTEMPTS TO DELIVER LETTER HAD
BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL; BACKOUSH WAS ON LENGTHY VISIT TO
EUROPE).

2. BACKOUSH HAD LITTLE OF REAL INTEREST TO DISCUSS.
HE WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE,
MORE FOR THE EFFECT IT COULD HAVE ON ARAB STATES' INTERNAL
POLITICS THAN BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT RESULT IN PEACE
WITH ISRAEL. HE SUGGESTED THAT ARAB LEADERS, SINCE 1948
HAVE JUSTIFIED REPRESSIVE INTERNAL REGIMES AS NECESSARY
IN ORDER CONFRONT ISRAEL. SADAT'S VISIT, BACKOUSH CLAIMED,
DEMONSTRATED THIS NOT SO.

3. BACKOUSH DISMISSED RECENT EGYPTIAN INTERNAL DEVELOP-
MENTS AS ABERRATION, CLAIMING SADAT'S LIBERALIZATION
PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE. PRESIDENT MAY HAVE GONE TOO FAST,
TOO SOON BUT BACKOUSH EXPECTS HIM CONTINUE WITH DEMO-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 14320 052027Z

CRATIC EXPERIMENT.

4. BAKOUSH SAID HE HAS GOOD ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON
INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS IN LIBYA AND SEEMED CURRENT.
HE THOUGHT QADHIFI'S MILITARY RECRUITMENT
PROGRAM WIDELY UNPOPULAR, PARTICULARLY WITH STUDENTS.

5. ON LEAVING, BACKOUSH NOTED HE BEING GIVEN 24-HOUR
PROTECTION BY EGYPTIAN ARMED GUARD. IN FACT, HE WAS
ACCOMPANIED TO EMBASSY BY BODYGUARD, FACT WHICH CAUSED
SOME INITIAL DIFFICULTY IN HIS GAINING ACCESS TO COMPOUND.
MATTHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO14320
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780234-1261
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780697/aaaadfsv.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c4973d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2494881
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABDULHAMID BACKOUSH
TAGS: OTRA, PDEV, EG, LY, XF, (BACKOUSH, ABDULHAMID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c4973d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014